

THE SAN JUAN TIMES

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1895.

Captain Isaac Bassett the veteran assistant door keeper of the U. S. senate died in Washington, at 4 o'clock, p. m., Dec. 17. The deceased had served continuously in one position or another in the upper branch of congress for 65 years and from a delicate boy of 11 years had literally "grown gray" in the service of his country. He was the second page appointed in the senate, his sponsor being Daniel Webster and the date of his appointment 1830. After he had outgrown the office of page he was promoted to that of messenger, and from that elevated to the office of assistant door-keeper, which position he had filled until he had come to be as much a fixture in the chamber as the marble clock which, according to capitol gossip, he was wont to turn back at the end of each March session, when some special legislation was desired to be completed.—Optic.

At the fifth day's session of the Federation of Labor a resolution was brought forward that the Federation memorialize congress in the interest of the establishment of savings institutions in connection with the post office department. In other words asking for the establishment of postal savings banks. This institution gives the workman an opportunity to save a little money. The amount that can be deposited according to the plan in England where this institution is considered a valuable and necessary one is limited. It is a great incentive to the poor man to deposit a portion of his wages. He feels that that bank is his own. There he is not jostled by the rich depositor and his savings are not manipulated by dishonest bank officials. His country itself runs his bank and a sense of security is added to the pleasure of owning his own bank book. This matter should be urged by this powerful organization on congress which should act in the interest of the people they represent.

In our columns last week we published the interesting letter received from Dr. Condit of Scranton, Penn. The letter is not only suggestive but most instructive. The writer informs us that a barrel of apples shipped from this district traveled 2500 miles and arrived in perfect order at its destination. The doctor's friends expressed astonishment and delight at its beauty and flavor and such perfection in fruit had never been seen there before. Samples were sent to New York and Philadelphia. Now from one to two dollars buys a barrel of ordinary apples in that market but fancy apples are bought in New York at four and five dollars per barrel—fruit not to be compared with ours. We are assured that the east is a wide market for our product in the east and inquiries are being made as to the fruit. In Scranton, Penn., lots of people would buy quantities of our superb apples at prices that will warrant shipment to any large eastern city. The price named is far larger than we ever hope to get in our present screwed down and tyrannical market. We have in this letter received a pointer that we must follow up. There is a problem our orchardists will study and solve to their immense advantage. The matter is before the people, not the proposition of a crafty and unscrupulous salesman but the matured and proved plan of a gentleman who seeks to improve our condition and who is an honorable and practical man.

Cleveland on December 20 sent a message to congress. The president pointed out that in his last annual message the evils of our present financial system were pointed out and the cause and means of the depletion of government gold were explained. The recent message refers to the gold reserve and the issuance of bonds for its protection and maintenance. The message to congress predicted large withdrawals of gold in the immediate future, and the contingency then feared had reached us and the withdrawals of gold and others that appeared inevitable had rendered necessary further action for the protection

of the reserve. There was great timidity and sudden and unusual apprehension in business circles. A season of perplexity caused by our dangerous and fatuous financial operations—and those may be expected to recur with certainty as long as there is no amendment in our financial system. The real and sensible cure for our recurring trouble can only be effected by a complete change in our financial system. I have ventured herein to express the earnest hope that congress in default of the inauguration of a better system of finance will not take a recess from its labors before it has by legislative enactment in declaration done something not only to remind those apprehensive among our people that resources of this government and scrupulous regard for honest dealing afford a sure guarantee of unquestioned safety and soundness but to reassure the world that with these factors and the patriotism of our citizens, the ability and determination of our nation to meet in any circumstances every obligation it incurs do not admit of question." On the same day that this message was handed to congress, Allen of Nebraska urged as a measure of financial safety that the free coinage of gold and silver on equal terms be considered by the finance committee. The motion to refer the resolution to the committee was defeated by 35 to 24—the silver men voting nay. The resolution was agreed to without division. The resolution was to the effect that the committee on finance be and are hereby directed and instructed to inquire and report by bill or otherwise whether it would not be expedient and proper for the government of the U. S. at this time to open the mints to the free and unlimited coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, to issue full legal tender treasury notes as before, to withdraw the national banks and retire all bank currency.

What He Said.

Following is a paragraph from the Edinburgh speech of Ambassador Bayard, delivered last November, and which caused him to be taken in hand by congress:

"In my own country I have witnessed the insatiable growth of a form of socialism styled protection which has done more to corrupt public life, to banish men of independent minds from public councils and to lower the tone of national representation than any other single cause. Protection now controlling the sovereign power of taxation has been perverted from its proper functions of creating revenue to support the government into an engine for selfish profit allied with combinations called trusts. It has thus sapped the popular conscience by giving corrupting largesse to special classes, and it throws legislation into the political market where jobbers and choppers take the place of statesmen."

Pointing out that the magazine of great names is really more costly to produce than the magazine of intellect and literary skill, the editor easily throws the responsibility for the non-existence of the latter upon the world of readers. He says in effect that the public is a hydra-headed snob, easily caught by a title or a cheap notoriety, and offensively scornful of unpretentious merit.

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INSPIRING COLORS.

BRIGHT IN HUE AND CHEERING IN DAINTINESS.

Fashion Must Be Obeyed, and Color, Harmony and Good Form Are Ever at Her Mercy—Some of the Skirts Shown Are Very Striking.

Verily the reign of terror has come, thinks the New York Sun fashion writer. The imperious "she who must be obeyed" in the domain of dress, exulting in her own success in devising atrocities, abjures moderation and revels in menstrosity and absurdity. Daily we see our pet theories of color harmony, good form and gentility in dress guillotined in the streets.

Women go about the ordering of gowns in fear and trembling, wondering what the future will develop. However, sufficient unto the day is the mode thereof. There is comfort in the thought that the climax is not far off.

The new colors are bright and inspiring, even their daintiness is cheerful. Crude tints and dangerous combinations are seen, but a wise conservatism finds a great variety for choice in most artistic and fascinating tints.

A happy example of this conservatism, which adapts rather than follows the mode, is a summer gown of shot green and rose and brown, with a clear green accent in the form of little figures in green. Three groups of ruffles trim the skirt at intervals of 10 inches, and each group of ruffles is formed of satin rib-



STRIKING FLOUNCE EFFECT

bon in the three tints of the gown—first the bronze, then the rose, and over these, almost covering them, is the frill of green. The waist is of green satin, with a peculiar arrangement of the goods draping from the shoulder to the belt, and bold epaulets of the green not ruffled, but cut with a great flare cap, and the full mutton leg sleeve, which finishes at the wrist with a broad cuff of satin. A little gump combining the colors of the gown edges the folds of the wrist and drapes across the bust. The collar and belt are of satin.

Another very simple gown is of a tender shade of gray green, suggestive of the tints in a coast landscape. The skirt is trimmed in a quaint old fashion with rows on rows of narrow fringe of the same color scarcely half a yard in width and put on in vandykes several rows in a group and covering the skirt nearly to the top. The waist is of satin, with a narrow pelerine of the cloth edged with fringe, but the tint of the satin is deeper and more shadowy than the gown because it is shot with lines of color, rose and blue and pale yellow. These lines are so mixed in together that the individual effect of each is lost in a sheen of softly iridescent color.

Planner and smarter than either of these gowns is a dress that promises to do duty at the fair. It is of the new hopsacking whose name so aptly describes the peculiar canvaslike material, with its uneven threads. Very light and cool is this fabric and particularly suited to summer wear. Three black satin folds, with passementeries of black cord above like braiding, trim the skirt. The waist has three black satin capes crossing the shoulders, to be lost under revers of the satin, and in the space between is a vest of clear yellow cloth braided with black. The waist is joined to the skirt with a cord of black satin.



WORLD'S FAIR GOWN.

In the midst of all this shimmering color and rainbow dazzle a black dress has an air of distinction in quality to be desired. Such a gown of black crepon may have for a tall woman a skirt with the flare at the bottom part or in the form of a flounce, and where the flounce joins the skirt is a full broad ruche of satin ribbon 4 inches wide and plaited

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